



NLC *ommunicator*

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www.nlc.state.ne.us 402-471-2045, 800-307-2665

Timely information from the Nebraska Library Commission

[Announcements]

The Nebraska Library Association and Nebraska Library Commission will offer grants to public libraries for **student internships**. This joint project is funded through a partnership of Nebraska donors and foundations. Applications are due June 5, and grants will be awarded June 19. For more information, see www.NowHiringAtYourLibrary.org or www.nebraskalibraries.org.

On June 30, 2009, the **Nebraska Library Commission will cease operation of NEBASE** as Nebraska's regional network for OCLC. After that date, Nebraska OCLC (Online Computer Library Center) customers will use OCLC for technical support and BCR (Bibliographical Center for Research) for training, ordering, renewals, and billing questions. The final **NEBASE annual meeting** will be held on **June 25** at the Marriott Cornhusker Hotel in **Lincoln**. The Library Commission's NEBASE staff, along with representatives from BCR and OCLC, will discuss upcoming changes. For more information about the meeting, see www.nlc.state.ne.us/scripts/training/eventshow.asp?ProgID=8965.

Twenty students in the current Nebraska Basic Skills class are the first librarians to study at **NCampus**, the Nebraska Library Commission's place for Nebraska librarians to learn online. NCampus offers interactive, online continuing education. Students use learning management software that presents written materials to the students, links to audio and video files, keeps track of participant progress, and encourages

social learning. For more information see www.ncampus.nlc.state.ne.us or contact Laura Johnson, Nebraska Library Commission Continuing Education Coordinator, 402-471-2694 or 800-307-2665, e-mail: ljohnson@nlc.state.ne.us.

It's not too late to sign up for the **Bus trip to the American Library Association 2009 Conference** in Chicago, **July 9-14**. The Nebraska Library Commission awarded a grant to the Regional Library Systems to support the bus trip they initiated, setting the cost at only \$35. Riders are responsible for their own hotel arrangements and conference registration. For more information about the bus, see the Announcement at www.nlc.state.ne.us. For more information about the conference, see www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm.

The State of Nebraska Facebook page (<http://tinyurl.com/NEBfacebook>) recently announced, "The Nebraska Library Commission has a live help desk for all kinds of questions! Are you trying to find resources for more online government? Or maybe your child needs help on a report about Nebraska? Visit the Nebraska Library Commission's Reference Desk: www.nlc.state.ne.us/docs/needhelp.html."

Nebraska Library Commission Reference Service had the busiest month ever in March 2009, with 1,737 reference requests, exceeding the previous record of 1,711 in January 2008.

NebraskaAccess, the portal to information databases for Nebraska residents since 2003, now offers expanded resources and a new

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look at nebraskaccess.ne.gov. To help get the word out to library customers, business cards are easy to print and use to promote the database resources available to all Nebraskans. The customizable business card is located on the Nebraska Library Commission NebraskaAccess Website, in the Toolbox for Librarians. Libraries are encouraged to enter their specific NebraskaAccess password and hand out cards to library customers, see www.nlc.state.ne.us/nebraskaccess/toolbox/businesscard.html.

The Nebraska Library Commission will hold the twelfth annual **Database Roadshow** this summer. The sessions will include hands-on practice and feature enhancements and upgrades to the new NebraskaAccess Website, eLibrary interface, Wilson databases, and new databases added to FirstSearch. For more information watch the Nebraska Library Commission's Library Training portal, www.nlc.state.ne.us/training/train.asp.

The Nebraska Library Commission paid \$388,164 in **direct state aid** to Nebraska public libraries (including Dollars for Data and other special incentive awards) in 2008. For details on the distribution, see the Announcement at www.nlc.state.ne.us.

The 2009 Nebraska Book Awards, sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book and supported by the Nebraska Library Commission, recognizes and honors books with a 2008 copyright that are written by Nebraska authors, published by Nebraska publishers, set in Nebraska, or relating to Nebraska. Submit **nominations by June 30**. For more information and entry forms see the Library Commission Website, www.

nlc.state.ne.us, search on Book Awards. Send the entry form, three copies of the book, and the \$40 entry fee to NCB Book Awards, Nebraska Library Commission, The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Suite 120, Lincoln, NE 68508-2023.

Readers across the state are celebrating **2009 One Book One Nebraska** by reading *A Lantern in Her Hand*, by Bess Streeter Aldrich. Libraries across Nebraska are hosting local discussions and readings. Copies of the video biography, *A Video History of Bess Streeter Aldrich* and book club kits with multiple copies of the book (www.nlc.state.ne.us/ref/bookclubkits.html) are available from the Nebraska Library Commission Information and Reference Services, 402-471-4016 or 800-307-2665, or the Regional Library System offices. One Book One Nebraska 2009 is hosted this year by the Bess Streeter Aldrich Foundation and sponsored by a coalition of organizations including the Nebraska Center for the Book, Nebraska Humanities Council, Nebraska Library Association, Nebraska Library Commission, and University of Nebraska Press. See www.bessstreeteraldrich.org/one_book.html for discussion questions, program ideas, a calendar of events, and information on how to obtain funding from the Nebraska Humanities Council for activities and events.

2009 Nebraska Book Festival, Nebraska Writers: Cultivating Creativity, will be held **November 14** at the Nebraska State Historical Society's Museum of Nebraska History, 15th and P Streets in Lincoln. An awards luncheon will honor the winners of the Center for the Book's Mildred Bennett Award, Jane Geske Award, and Nebraska Book Awards. A selection of Nebraska writers will read from their 2009 work, along with readings from the winners of the Nebraska Book Awards. Writers Workshops will be offered free of charge. Teresa Lorensen of the Bess Streeter Aldrich Foundation will lead a book discussion of Aldrich's *A Lantern in Her Hand*, this year's enormously popular One Book One Nebraska selection (www.onebookonenebraska.org). For more

[Announcements]

[continued]

information see the Announcement at www.nlc.state.ne.us.

The Nebraska Library Commission awarded **Dollars for Data** payments of \$250 to unaccredited public libraries that submitted the 2006-2007 Public Library Statistical Survey using Bibliostat™ Collect. For more information and a list of the forty-three unaccredited public libraries that qualify for this payment, see the Announcement at www.nlc.state.ne.us.

The Nebraska Library Commission recently awarded **2009 Library Improvement Grants**. Thirty grant applications were submitted with requests totaling over \$357,000. Twenty-two grants were made totaling \$177,000, including one grant to the Panhandle Library System to start a rotating DVD collection and one to a consortium for an Open Source library system. For more information and a list of the libraries that received these grants, see the Announcement at www.nlc.state.ne.us.

Rebecca Sims, Director, Thomas S. Power Library at Offutt Air Force Base, was recently appointed to the Nebraska Library Commission's **Talking Book and Braille Service Advisory Committee**. Joan Davis, North Platte Public School teacher, and Ana Kalin, library volunteer, were reappointed to second two-year terms.

This summer young readers who are active borrowers of the **Nebraska Library Commission's Talking Book and Braille Service** can download talking books through their computers. Library of Congress now offers a Website with over 14,000 recorded books and 37 magazines. For more information contact Dave Oertli, Nebraska Library Commission Talking Book & Braille Service Director, 402-471-4005 or 800-742-7691; e-mail: doertli@nlc.state.ne.us or talkingbook@nlc.state.ne.us.

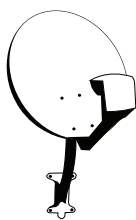
The Nebraska State Advisory Council on Libraries set their upcoming meeting for **June 26, 9:30 a.m.**, at the Elmwood Christian Church, 311 North 4th Street. The State Advisory Council will participate in a tour of the Bess Streeter Aldrich House and Museum. Guests for this meeting are asked to contact Maria Medrano-Nehls, 402-471-2045 or 800-307-2665; e-mail: mnehls@nlc.state.ne.us.

Free Web-based Continuing Education programs are scheduled for May. See www.nlc.state.ne.us/blogs/nlc/index.html for information on available programs. Since these programs are not sponsored by the Nebraska Library Commission, contact Linda Jensen, Nebraska Library Commission Staff Assistant, 402-471-4037 or 800-307-2665, e-mail: ljensen@nlc.state.ne.us to have C.E. credits recorded.

Nebraska library directors may want to contact local community officials about the **USDA rural broadband grant opportunity**. State and local governments, corporations, and Indian tribes are eligible to apply for grants from \$50,000 to \$1 million through USDA's Community Connect Grant Program, which was created to help rural residents tap into the tremendous potential of the Internet. For more information see www.usda.gov/wps/portal?contentidonly=true&contentid=2009/04/0135.xml.

Would you like to receive this newsletter as a link in an e-mail? In order to curb our rising postage costs, the Nebraska Library Commission would like to e-mail *NLCommunicator* to our customers that would prefer to receive it electronically. If you would like an electronic copy of subsequent *NLCommunicator* newsletters, please e-mail Maria Medrano-Nehls, mnehls@nlc.state.ne.us.

[Blog]



Join the conversation on the **Library Commission Blog**, see www.nlc.state.ne.us/blogs/NLC for more details and further discussion about:

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- **Legislation Introduced to Exempt Books from Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act...**to exempt ordinary books from the lead limit within the act. This is a welcome step toward ensuring that libraries will not be adversely affected by the law.
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- **Thinkfinity features ALA's *State of America's Libraries Report*.** The value of libraries in communities across the country continued to grow in 2008—and accelerated dramatically as the national economy sank and people looked for cost effective resources in a time of crisis...visit Thinkfinity.org/@yourlibrary
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- **The Learning Continues.** The Nebraska Library Commission debuted its first Nebraska Learns 2.0 online learning program on October 6, 2008...here it is—the second edition of Nebraska Learns 2.0!
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- **Nebraska Libraries Map Mashup.** The Library Commission has developed a “map mashup” of public libraries in the state at www.nlc.state.ne.us/statistics/librarymap.html.
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- **Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries Hosts Wine & Wii Fundraiser.** Lincoln residents were invited to “Unleash your inner rock star or realize your dream of winning the Masters Cup at the Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries’ Wine & Wii Game Night and Silent Auction.”
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- **Gates Foundation and OCLC Will Develop Community-Based Awareness Campaign to Increase Support for Libraries...** a \$5 million grant to the OCLC library cooperative to develop a public information campaign that will help public library leaders heighten awareness of the needs of local libraries and increase support for the services they provide during these challenging times.

[Training]

Class	Date: Location
● NCompass Live: Leading a Book Group	May 20: Online Session
● Southeast Library System Training Extravaganza 2009	May 21: Seward
● NCompass Live: Topic to be Announced	May 27: Online Session
● Automation Vendor Workshop	May 28: Scottsbluff
● NCompass Live: Topic to be Announced	June 3: Online Session
● NCompass Live: Library and Information Services Associate of Arts Degree	June 10: Online Session
● NCompass Live: Topic to be Announced	June 17: Online Session
● Cataloging Sound Recordings	June 18: Lincoln
● NCompass Live: Topic to be Announced	June 24: Online Session
● Farewell to NEBASE	June 25: Lincoln
● Workshops on Library Governance for Directors, Trustees, Library Friends, Foundation Members, and Volunteers	June 25: Alliance & June 26: Sidney

Click on Library Training on the Nebraska Library
Commission Website for more Fall training events

Continuing Education (CE) Credits for the above training events are
issued by the Nebraska Library Commission as part of the Nebraska
Public Librarian and Board Certification Program.

For more Information about any of the above training events or to
register, see the Nebraska Library Commission Training Portal, on the
Library Commission Website, www.nlc.state.ne.us, click on Library
Training.

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Nebraska Library Commission

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See the Interactive Nebraska Library Map at:
www.nlc.state.ne.us/statistics/librarymap.html



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